

Message Text

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53

ACTION PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2038

USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMCONGEN RIO DE JANEIRO PRIOTY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

UNCLAS CARACAS 1887

FOR SECRETARY" PARTY ABROAD AIRCRAFT

STATE FOR S/PRS; PASS NSC FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND WHITE
HOUSE FOR NESSEN; POSTS PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY; USINFO FOR
IBS/PL & IPS/PL; USIA FOR ILA & IOP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION-VENEZUELA

1. ALL LOCAL MEDIA, INCLUDING RADIO AND TELEVISION, GAVE
OVERWHELMING, UNIQUE AND POSITIVE COVERAGE TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S
VISIT. BOTH SERIOUS CARACAS MORNINGS, NACIONAL AND UNIVERSAL,
AS WELL AS ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY JOURNAL, RAN THE COMPLETE
TEXT OF SECRETARY'S SPEECH. EVEN TABLOID ULTIMAS NOTICIAS
USED EXTENSIVE EXCERPTS.

2. EL NACIONAL HEADS "KISSINGER PROMISES TRADE LAW REFORM
AND SUPPORT FOR SELA" OVER A PHOTO OF SECRETARY AT LUNCHEON
OFFERED BY PRESIDENT PEREZ. FIRST THREE PAGE OF NATIONAL SECTION
DEVOTED TO VISIT, WITH PHOTOS, COMPLETE TEXT OF SPEECH,
AND TRANSCRIP OF PRESS CONFERENCE. CAPTION OVER TOW
PHOTOS OF SECRETARY AT PRESS CONFERENCE, READS:

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"MY TALKS WITH THE PRESIDENT HAVE HELPED ME TO UNDERSTAND

THE PROBLEMS OF VENEZUELA AND LATIN AMERICA." ON SECOND PAGE OF LAST SECTION, PAPER CARRIES SEVERAL PHOTOS OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ AT LUCH WITH HEADING: "KISSINGER DID NOT ATTEMPT TO EXACT ANY PROMISE TO LOOSEN OUR TIES WITH OPEC, SAY PRESIDENT PEREZ."

3. TABLOID ULTIMAS NOTICIAS FRONTPAGES PHOTO OF SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT SHAKING HANDS "EFFUSIVELY". HEAD READS "VENEZUELA AND THE USA AGREE TO A NEW AND CLOSER COOPERATION". INSIDE PAGE HAS HEAD "PRESIDENT ASKS KISSINGER FOR UNDERSTANDING WITHOUT CONFRONTATION PROVOKED BY THE (U.S.) STRONGEST NATION". PAPER ALSO USES NUMEROUS PHOTOS OF SECRETARY AT LUNCHEON AND BREAKFAST MEETING WITH PRESIDENT."

4. EL UNIVERSAL HEADLINES "KISSINGER AND PRESIDENT PEREZ DISCUSSED THE FUTURE OF THE ORINOCO HEAVY TAR BELT." SUBHEADS "KISSINGER SAID IN A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THE VENEZUELAN CHIEF OF STATE HAD POINTED OUT THAT THE U.S. HAS THE TECHNOLOGY NEEDED FOR ITS EXPLOTATION..."

" HE OFFERED TO TRY TO ELIMINATE THE DISCRIMINATORY TREATY WHICH HUTST THE TRADE OF OUR COUNTRY"--"HE SAID THAT THE U.S. IS PREPARED TO MAKE A MEJOR EFFORT ON BEHALF OF LATIN AMERICA"-- "HE SAID THAT WHEN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE RISKS WHICH RESULT FROM THE CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA, THEY WILL NOT PERMIT THEIR GOVERNMENT TO REMAIN INACTIVE"--"THE QUESTION OF BRAZILIAN LEADERSHIP IN LATIN AMERICA IS NOT ONE IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS INVOLVED"--"HE DENIED PROPOSING THAT VENEZUELA LOWER ITS OIL PRICES THE WAY THAT IRAN DID" --"HE CATEGORICALLY DENIED THAT AMERICAN AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WAS CONDITIONED BY THE SUPPORT THOSE COUNTRIES GAVE TO THE UNITED STATES IN INTERNATIONAL FORA"--"KISSINGER AND FOREIGN MINISTER ESCOVAR SALOM SIGNED A JOINT STATEMENT". PAPER ALSO CARRIES FULL TEXT OF JOINT STATEMENT. ON INSIDE PAGE EL UNIVERSAL DEVOTES COVERAGE TO LUNCHEON AND BREAKFAST MEETINGS, WITH HEADLINE: "CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ-- VENEZUELA DEMANDS RESPECT FROM THE UNITED STATES FOR THE INTEREST OF THE LATIN AMERICAN COMMUNITY." SUBHEADS READ: "KISSINGER SAID THAT IF THERE HAD BEEN OBSTACELS IN THE PAST, HE DID NOT KNOW OF THEM. BUT NOW HIS COUNTRY SUPPORTS LATIN AMERICAN INTEGRATION."

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--"BEFORE 1 HOUR AND 45 MINUTES OF CONVERSATION AT LA CASONA (THE VENEZUELAN WHITE HOUSE), KISSINGER BREAKFASTED ON AREPAS AND LOCAL CHEESE"--"THE CONGRESS WILL CHANGE THE TRADE LAW. BUT CAP SAYS THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO SET GUIDELINES FOR UNDERSTANDING WHICH WILL AVOID ANY ATTITUDES OF CONFRONTATION"--"WE DID NOT TALK AT ANY LENGTH ABOUT PETROLEUM, BECAUSE THE VENEZUELAN POSITION IS KNOWN AND UNCHANGEABLE, AND THE UNITED STATES IS CONVINCED OF OUR SINCERITY"--"THE

PLANS FOR INTEGRATION ARE IN OUR LEGITIMATE INTERESTS AND WE WILL DEFEND THEM, AND THE PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED THAT WE WILL NEITHER ADMIT NOR TOLERATE ANY INTERFERENCE WHATSOEVER."

5. AS IS LOCAL CUSTOM, ONLY PAPER WITH EDITORIAL COMMENT IS ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY JOURNAL. IN ITS OWN DISTINCTIVE STYLE, DAILY JOURNAL BEGINS COMMENT BY SAYING: "THE SPEECH OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AT THE MACUTO SHERATON SYMPOSIUM YESTERDAY CONSTITUTED AN AUSPICIOUS BEGINNING TO AN HISTORIC TRIP. IT WAS NOT ONLY BROAD IN ITS EXPRESSION OF PRINCIPLES OF FRIENDSHIP FOR LATIN AMERICA, IT WAS ALSO ENCOURAGINGLY SPECIFIC..IT WAS A LIGHTNING VISIT, BUT ONE FULL OF IMPACT. WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXPECT BIG THINGS IN THE FUTURE." RADIO AND TELEVISION CARRIES LONG EXCERPTS FROM THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH AS WELL AS EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF HIS NEWS CONFERENCE. ADDITIONALLY, TELEVISION CHANNELS 2, 4 AND 8 GAVE UNIQUE COVERAGE TO THE PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON, AND THE SECRETARY'S RECEPTION FOR MEMBER OF THE SYMPOSIUM AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, INCLUDING FOREIGN MINISTER ESCOBAR SALOM. HIGGINS

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